

What is claimed is:

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1. An isolated antibody generated against the propeptide of the Int1p protein of *Candida albicans*.
  2. An isolated antibody according to claim 1 wherein the propeptide has the sequence of amino acids 1-263 of the Int1p protein as shown in Fig. 1.
  3. <sup>the</sup> An isolated antibody according to claim 1 wherein said antibody is capable of preventing the cleaving of the propeptide.
  4. Isolated antisera containing <sup>the</sup> an antibody according to Claim 1.
  5. A method of treating or preventing an infection by a microorganism expressing the Int1p protein comprising administering an effective amount of the antibody according to claim 1 to a human or animal patient.
  6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the microorganism is selected from the group consisting of *Candida albicans* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.
  7. A method according to claim 5 wherein the antibody is raised to a portion of the propeptide of Int1p effective to generate an immune response.
  8. A method for treating patients exposed to *Candida albicans* in the presence of heparin, the method comprising:  
administering the antibody according to claim 1 to a human or animal patient in an amount effective to bind with the heparin and to reduce or eliminate the activation of the Int1p protein.

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9. A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing an infection from a microorganism expressing the Int1p protein comprising an effective amount of <sup>the</sup> an isolated antibody according to claim 1 and a physiologically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent.

10. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9 wherein the microorganism is selected from the group consisting of *Candida albicans* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

11. A diagnostic kit comprising <sup>the</sup> an antibody according to claim 1 and means for detecting binding by that antibody.

12. An isolated antibody generated against a peptide region of the Int1p protein of *Candida albicans* involved in the activation of the int1p propeptide.

13. An isolated antibody according to claim 12 wherein the peptide region is selected from the group consisting of the propeptide region at amino acids 1-263, the Catalytic domain 1 at amino acids 435-639, the Catalytic domain 2 at amino acids 738-949, and the Processing domain motif at amino acids 1022-1236 of the amino acid sequence depicted in Fig. 1. <sup>see 1.</sup>

14. An isolated antibody according to claim 12 wherein said antibody is capable of preventing the cleaving of the propeptide.

15. Isolated antisera containing an antibody according to claim 12.

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20. An isolated nucleic acid sequence coding for the peptide according to claim 18.

22. A vaccine comprising a peptide according to claim 18 in an amount effective to generate an immunological response.

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24. A method of diagnosing an infection by a microorganism capable of expressing an Int1p protein comprising introducing an antibody according to

claim 12 into a sample suspected of having an infection by an Int1p-producing microorganism and determining the binding of said antibody to said sample.

25. A method according to claim 24 wherein the microorganism is selected from the group consisting of *Candida albicans* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

26. A method of treating or preventing infections caused by microorganisms expressing the Int1p protein comprising administering an effective amount of an agent that inhibits Int1p activity.

27. A method according to claim 26 wherein the agent modulates a peptide region or motif from the Int1p protein which is involved in the pathway of activation for the Int1p protein.

28. A method according to claim 26 wherein the agent modulates a peptide selected from the group consisting of the propeptide region at amino acids 1-263, the Catalytic domain 1 at amino acids 435-639, the Catalytic domain 2 at amino acids 738-949, and the Processing domain motif at amino acids 1022-1236 of the amino acid sequence depicted in Fig. 1.

29. A method according to claim 26 wherein the microorganism is a yeast of the *Candida* species.

30. A method according to claim 26 wherein the microorganism is selected from the group consisting of *Candida albicans* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

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